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63. (New) The method of claim 57 wherein the

water-supplying compound comprises hydrated calcium oxylate.

REMARKS

This application has been reconsidered carefully in light of the Office Action dated as mailed on 13 January 2003. A careful reconsideration of the application by the Examiner in light of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

5 This response is timely filed as it is filed within the one (1) month shortened statutory period for response to the outstanding Office Action.

There is no additional claim fee due for this Amendment because the total number of claims does not exceed the number of independent and total claims for which fees have previously been paid.

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Amendment to the Claims

By the above,

1. claim 1-24 and 32-35 have been canceled without prejudice, and
2. claims 36-63 have been added to more fully and completely

15 claim the disclosed subject matter.

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Newly added claims 36-63 find general support throughout the originally filed application. For example, claims 36-38 find support at page 11, line 6 through page 12, line 15 and page 17, line 10 through page 21, line 12. Claim 39 finds support in FIG. 2A and at page 21, line 13 through page 24, line 19, for example. Claim 40 finds support at page 13, lines 12-20, for example. Claim 41 finds support in original claim 6, FIG. 2B and related description, such as page 24, line 20 through page 29, line 3, for example. Claim 42 finds support in original claim 8 and at page 28, lines 1-5, for example. Claims 43, 50 and 59 find support in original claim 11 and at page 16, line 13 through page 17, line 2, for example. Claims 44, 51 and 60 find support in original claim 12 and at page 16, line 13 through page 17, line 2, for example. Claims 45, 55 and 57 find support in original claim 16 and at page 17, line 10 through page 19, line 17, for example. Claims 46, 56 and 63 find support in original claim 17 and at page 17, line 10 through page 19, line 17, for example. Claims 47 and 57 find support in original claims 25 and 26 and the specification supporting such claims. Claims 48 and 57 find support in original claim 27. Claims 49 and 58 find support in original claim 28. Claims 52 and 57 find support in original claim 29. Claim 53 and 61 find support in original claim 30. Claims 54, 57 and 62 find support in original claim 31.

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Claims 25-31 and 36-63 remain in the application.

Election/Restrictions

The application has been alleged to contain claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention:

- I. Claims 1-17, drawn to a device, classified in class 280, subclass 736;
- II. Claims 18-24, drawn to a device, classified in class 280, subclass 740;
- III. Claims 25-31, drawn to a method of inflating a restraint, classified in class 102, subclass 205; and
- IV. Claims 32-35, drawn to a device classified in class 280, subclass 728.1.

The invention of Group III (i.e., claims 25-35) is elected without traverse.

The Action further states that:

Claims 1-35 are generic to a plurality of disclosed patentably distinct species comprising vehicular restraints and methods of using the same. Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single ultimate composition or device, *as in an example*, even though this requirement is traversed. (Italics in the original.)

The above-stated requirement is not well understood and appears to have possibly resulted from a word processing error or difficulty. Nevertheless, in an

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effort to avoid further delay and in an effort to advance prosecution of the subject application, the practice of the elected method employing compositions which include ammonium nitrate as a water-supplying compound and potassium t-butyl carbonate as a water-reactive fuel precursor are elected to the extent to the extent the election requirement might apply to the claimed method. Of the claims in Group III, claims 25, 26, 30 and 31 are believed to be readable on the practice of the elected method employing compositions which include ammonium nitrate as a water-supplying compound and potassium t-butyl carbonate as a water-reactive fuel precursor. Further, elected claims 25 and 26 are believed to be generic.

Newly Added Claims

Claims 36-63 have been added to more fully and completely claim the disclosed subject matter. Each of the newly added claims 36-63 is believed to clearly fall within elected Group III.

Furthermore, of these newly added claims, at least claims 36-42, 47 and 57 are believed to generic and at least claims 36-42, 47, 53, 54, 57, 61 and 62 are believed to be readable on the practice of the elected method employing compositions which include ammonium nitrate as a water-supplying compound and potassium t-butyl carbonate as a water-reactive fuel precursor.

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Conclusion

It is believed that the above elections are properly responsive to the requirements contained in the Action and that the application is in condition for substantive examination. Should the Examiner detect any issue or have any question which might be resolved via a telephone discussion, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned via telephone at (847) 490-1400, in an effort to expedite examination of the application.

Respectfully submitted,



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